Claims

What is claimed is:

1.   A method for implementing a security filter for regulating access to data associated with a reporting system, comprising the steps of:

5   enabling a user to submit a user identification input and a user request to a reporting system;

identifying the user based on user identification input;

retrieving data in accordance with the user request;

filtering the retrieved data based on at least one security filter associated with the identified user; and

presenting the data to the user through a user interface.

2.   The method of claim 1 wherein the security filter comprises a filter expression that specifies a subset of data in at least one database.

3.   The method of claim 2 wherein the security filter comprises a top range attribute that specifies a highest level of analysis to which the security filter is applied.

4.   The method of claim 2 wherein the security filter comprises a bottom range attribute that specifies a lowest level of analysis to which the security filter is applied.

5.   The method of claim 1 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein the security filter is a group level security filter.

6.   The method of claim 2 wherein the security filter varies by user and at least one fact/metric element.

7.   A system for implementing a security filter for regulating access to data associated with a reporting system, comprising:

a user input for enabling a user to submit a user identification input and a user request to a reporting system;

5   an identification module for identifying the user based on user identification input;

an access module for retrieving data in accordance with the user request;

at least one security filter for filtering the retrieved data wherein the at least one security filter is associated with the identified user; and

10   a user interface for presenting the data to the user.

8.   The system of claim 7 wherein the security filter comprises a filter expression that specifies a subset of data in at least one database.

9.   The system of claim 8 wherein the security filter comprises a top range attribute that specifies a highest level of analysis to which the security filter is applied.

15   10.   The system of claim 8 wherein the security filter comprises a bottom range attribute that specifies a lowest level of analysis to which the security filter is applied.

11.   The system of claim 7 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein the security filter is a group level security filter.

20   12.   The system of claim 8 wherein the security filter varies by user and at least one fact/metric element.

13.   A processor-readable medium comprising code for execution by a processor to

implement a security filter for regulating access to data associated with a reporting

system, the medium comprising:

     code for causing a processor to enable a user to submit a user

identification input and a user request to a reporting system;

     code for causing a processor to identify the user based on user

identification input;

     code for causing a processor to retrieve data in accordance with the user

request;

     code for causing a processor to filter the retrieved data based on at least

one security filter associated with the identified user; and

     code for causing a processor to present the data to the user through a user

interface.

14.   The medium of claim 13 wherein the security filter comprises a filter expression

that specifies a subset of data in at least one database.

15.   The medium of claim 14 wherein the security filter comprises a top range attribute

that specifies a highest level of analysis to which the security filter is applied.

16.   The medium of claim 14 wherein the security filter comprises a bottom range

attribute that specifies a lowest level of analysis to which the security filter is

applied.

17.   The medium of claim 13 wherein the user is associated with a group of users

wherein the security filter is a group level security filter.

18.   The medium of claim 14 wherein the security filter varies by user and at least one

fact/metric element.